Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Cecelia Fernow, the middle child of five, was born on August 12, 1905, at Fairview farm near Enderlin, North Dakota, to Ernest, a farmer, and Lena (Ufer) Fernow, a professional seamstress; and,

Whereas, Cecelia graduated from Enderlin High School and following an additional 12 weeks of training, she taught in a country school, later obtaining her 4-year teaching degree; and,

Whereas, Cecelia was united in marriage to Sterling Oliphant, and to this union two children were born: Ronald and Mary Ann, who in turn blessed her with six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Cecelia and Sterling farmed near Elliot, North Dakota, and later moving to Sheldon, North Dakota, where they share-cropped; and,

Whereas, Cecelia was a church organist and Sunday school teacher at the churches in Elliot and Sheldon, North Dakota, and was also active in Homemaker's Club; and,

Whereas, Following Sterling's death, Cecelia moved to Fargo where she taught at West Fargo and Grace Lutheran schools and was active in the Fargo Garden Club, Daughters of Pioneers, and enjoyed oil painting; and,

Whereas, Cecelia now resides in Canton, South Dakota, and will celebrate her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on August 13, 2005, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 13, 2005, as

CECELIA OLIPHANT DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State